

I claim:

1. A method of communicating information between computers, wherein:  
a first computer unit, comprising a touch sensitive screen for displaying images, a processing unit and a communications port, connects to a telephone line;  
5 the computer unit electronically dials a telephone number associated with a second computer unit and establishes a communication path;  
the second computer unit pushes data and images to be displayed on the first computer unit's touch sensitive screen across the communications path;  
the second computer unit pushes identifying codes associated with a definition of active  
10 areas of the first computer's touch screen that, when selected, the first computer unit should return the code associated with the active area touched to the second computer unit;  
the first computer unit displays the images pushed to it across the data path;  
the first computer unit monitors the active areas for a selection action;  
the first computer unit registers the selection action in the active area;  
5 the first computer communicates the code for the active area selected to the second computer unit; and  
the second computer unit receives the code.
2. A method of communicating information between computers as defined in claim 1, with the additional steps of:  
the first computer unit sends information to the second computer unit corresponding to a  
charge account; and  
the second computer receives the information corresponding to a charge account and  
sends a confirmation to the first computer that the charge account information was received and  
25 a purchase of goods has been completed.
3. A method of communicating information between computers as defined in claim 1 wherein:  
the selection action registered is a user touching one of the active areas of the first  
30 computer's touch screen.

4. A method of communicating information between computers as defined in claim 1 wherein:

the first computer unit has a remote control unit comprising a touch screen that maps to some portion of the first computer unit's touch screen; and

5 the selection action registered is a user touching an area of the remote control unit's touch screen that maps to an active area of the first computer's touch screen.

5. A method of communicating information between computers as defined in claim 2 wherein:

10 the first computer unit has a remote control unit comprising a touch screen that maps to some portion of the first computer unit's touch screen; and

the selection action registered is a user touching an area of the remote control unit's touch screen that maps to one of the active areas of the first computer's touch screen.

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6. A method of controlling a computer, comprising the steps of:  
connecting the computer unit, comprising a touch sensitive screen for displaying images,  
a processing unit and a communications port, to a telephone line;  
dialing a telephone number associated with a server unit;  
5 establishing a communication path between the computer unit and the server unit;  
receiving data and images pushed by the server unit;  
displaying on the computer unit's touch sensitive screen the images received;  
receiving a description of active areas of the computer's touch screen pushed by the  
server unit corresponding to the data and images received by the computer unit;  
10 monitoring the active areas of the computer's touch screen for a selection action;  
registering a selection action in one of the active areas; and  
communicating to the server unit a code corresponding to the active area selected.

7. A method of controlling a computer as defined in claim 6, with the additional steps of:  
15 sending information to the server unit corresponding to a charge account; and  
receiving a confirmation from the server that the charge account information was  
received and a purchase of goods has been completed.

8. A method of controlling a computer as defined in claim 6, wherein the selection action  
20 registered is a user touching one of the active areas of the computer's touch screen.

9. A method of controlling a computer as defined in claim 6, wherein:  
the computer unit has a remote control unit comprising a touch screen that maps to some  
portion of the computer unit's touch screen; and  
25 the selection action registered is a user touching an area of the remote control unit's touch  
screen that maps to one of the active areas of the computer's touch screen.

10. A method of controlling a computer as defined in claim 7, wherein:  
the computer unit has a remote control unit comprising a touch screen that maps to some  
30 portion of the computer unit's touch screen; and

the selection action registered is a user touching an area of the remote control unit's touch screen that maps to one of the active areas of the computer's touch screen.

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11. A communications device for receiving and transmitting data consisting of:  
a touch sensitive screen for inputting information and displaying video and graphical  
information including pushed video;  
a communications processor for transmitting and receiving digital data;  
5 a memory storage device; and  
a handset that functions as a remote control for the communications device and comprises  
a touch sensitive screen.

12. The device of claim 11 wherein the touch sensitive screen of the handset map directly to  
10 a portion of the touch sensitive screen of the communications device.

13. The device of claim 11 wherein multiple touches on the touch sensitive screen are able to  
be interpreted by the communications device.

14. The device of claim 12 wherein the touch sensitive screen on the handset has two levels  
of sensitivity wherein:

a light touch will be mapped to the touch sensitive screen of the communications device  
and be interpreted as a roll-over of the area touched; and

a more firm touch will be mapped to the touch sensitive screen of the communications  
20 device and be interpreted as a selection of the area touched.

15. The device of claim 11 further comprising a radio frequency identification unit.

16. The device of claim 11 further comprising a card reader unit.

17. The device of claim 17 wherein the touch sensitive screen is configurable in response to  
received digital data.

18. The device of claim 11 wherein the communications unit communicates by any one or  
30 combination of:

telephonic communications,

cellular communications,  
satellite communications, or  
digital communications.

- 5 19. The device of claim 11 wherein the handset unit further comprises a card reader.
20. The device of claim 11 wherein the handset unit functions as a cellular telephone.

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